

Application of Lyon
Serial No. 10/046,734

Reference Sample for Generating Smoky Atmosphere

REMARKS:

In his final official action, dated May 17, 2004, the examiner rejected claims 11, 12, and 13 under 35 U.S.C.103(a) as being unpatentable over Bute US 4,271,643 in view of Spector, et al. US 5,610,359. Claims 11, 12, and 13 are hereby cancelled.

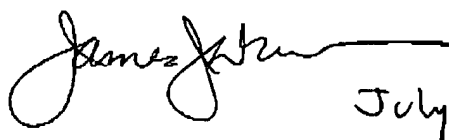
In addition, claims 12-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicants regards as their invention. The examiner suggested that the words "a mixture of types of plastic" be substituted for the words "a mixture of the types of plastic normally found in the cargo compartment of an airplane." The examiner stated that claims 14 through 17 would be allowable if rewritten as suggested, provided all the limitations of the base claim [claim 11] and any intervening claims [claim 12] were included. Claim 14 was rewritten to conform to this requirement of the examiner.

The claims have been amended by canceling claims 11, 12, and 13 and by rewriting claim 14.

Because claim 14 has been amended to comply with the specific suggestion of the examiner in his final official action, it now meets the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. With the claims thus amended, the application is in condition for allowance.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and ask that that claims 14, 15, 16 and 17 be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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Invention: Reference Sample for Generating Smoky Atmosphere

Inventors: Richard E. Lyon & David Blake

Application Number: 10/046,734

Filing Date: 1-17-2002

Listing of Claims (incl. Status)

Claims 1 – 10 (cancelled)

Claims 11 - 13 (cancelled)

Claim 14 (currently amended). The method of generating a desired atmosphere for testing the response of a fire detector which comprises

- a) providing a porous sample;
- b) providing a heating element within said sample;
- c) energizing said heating element to cause said sample to release volatile thermal decomposition products to approximate smoldering;
- d) constructing said sample of a mixture of plastics; and,
- e) constructing said sample in a plurality of layers.

Claim 15 (original). The method of claim 14 further comprising constructing said layers in different porosities.

Claim 16 (original). The method of claim 15 further comprising construction said layers in different thicknesses.

Claim 17 (original). The method of claim 16 further comprising placing said heating element in the interface between two of said layers.

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Listing of Claims

Claim 14. The method of generating a desired atmosphere for testing the response of a fire detector which comprises

- a) providing a porous sample;
- b) providing a heating element within said sample;
- c) energizing said heating element to cause said sample to release volatile thermal decomposition products to approximate smoldering;
- d) constructing said sample of a mixture of plastics; and,
- e) constructing said sample in a plurality of layers.

Claim 15. The method of claim 14 further comprising constructing said layers in different porosities.

Claim 16. The method of claim 15 further comprising construction said layers in different thicknesses.

Claim 17. The method of claim 16 further comprising placing said heating element in the interface between two of said layers.